

ACTING II SYLLABUS

Class Time: 8th Period
Class Location: G52

Instructor: Deidra Starnes
Email: msdeezellington@gmail.com

SUGGESTED TEXT

Respect for Acting – Uta Hagen

REQUIRED READING

Seven Guitars – August Wilson
Wine in the Wilderness – Alice Childress
Six Degrees of Separation – John Guare
The Clean House – Sarah Ruhl

Real Women Have Curves – Josephina Lopez
Anna in the Tropics – Nilo Cruz

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students to progress beyond the fundamental skills developed in Acting I by examining various techniques for creating a believable character.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

The student will:

- Physically and vocally embody the emotional composition of a character
- Create and develop a believable character using *Given Circumstances, Setting, Character History, Objectives, Tactics, and Obstacles*
- Accurately use theatrical terminology in discussion and written work
- Analyze and discuss character in text and on stage

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Promptness: You must be present and on time for each class.

Classroom Etiquette: You must enter the classroom quietly and professionally, and exercise self-control and discipline at all times.

Dress: You must come to class in the departmental uniform. Long dangling earrings, bracelets or necklaces are not permitted.

Class Participation: You must participate in all class activities, exercises, games, warm ups, and discussions.

Readings: You must complete reading assignments prior to class discussion.

Homework and Written Assignments: You must complete all homework and written assignments on time. Assignments must be neat and legible. Unexcused late assignments will be accepted no more than one school day after the due date and will incur a 5-point deduction.

Journal: You must keep a composition journal notebook containing *no less than two entries per week*. You must write legibly. Each entry must be well thought out and detail an impact on one or more of your 5 senses. Be advised that the journal is not a diary, but a reflective account of your observations. Journals will be collected randomly.

Performance Work: All performance work must be presented when scheduled.

Exams and Quizzes: In addition to a midterm and final examination, pop quizzes will be given on any material that was covered in class or reading assignment.

Final Project: The second-year class will collaborate to create a theatrical class project for departmental presentation highlighting characters that have created. Date TBD.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Due to the nature and content of this class the student must understand that s/he will be required to work in close physical proximity, often requiring contact with the instructor and fellow students. It is assumed that each student is comfortable with such contact unless stated otherwise.

Please inform the instructor if you have any physical conditions, which may prevent you from fully participating in class work. If you believe you have a physical disability that may warrant accommodation in this class, speak with the instructor as soon as possible so that a method of addressing your needs can be developed.

GRADE PERCENTAGE POINTS

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| Participation | 10% |
| <i>Warm-ups</i> | |
| <i>Constructive Comments/Opinions</i> | |
| <i>Thoughtful Criticisms</i> | |
| <i>Use of Terminology</i> | |
| <i>Attentiveness</i> | |
| Practice and Application | 50% |
| <i>Classwork</i> | |
| <i>In-Class Preparation</i> | |
| <i>Assignments</i> | |
| <i>Journals</i> | |
| Assessment | 40% |
| <i>Performance Work</i> | |
| <i>Quizzes</i> | |
| Cumulative Exam* | 20% |
| <i>Written Midterm</i> | |
| <i>Sophomore Class Performance Project</i> | |
| | <i>*Factored into Final Class Grade</i> |

DC THEATRE STANDARDS

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| HSA.1.4 | <i>Make acting choices through script analysis and research to create characters from classical, contemporary, realistic, and non-realistic dramatic texts.</i> |
| HSA.1.5 | <i>Create gestures, movements qualities, and physical attributes based on one's interpretation and analysis of the inner workings of character.</i> |
| HSA.1.6 | <i>Demonstrate concepts of space, time, and energy in group improvisations.</i> |
| HSA.3.1 | <i>Use the vocabulary of theatre, such as genre, style, theme, and design to analyze theatrical experiences.</i> |
| HSP.3.3 | <i>Document observations and perceptions on how a specific actor used theatre techniques to convey meaning in his or her performances.</i> |

GRADING SCALE

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|--------------|---|---------------|
| 100 - 90 | A | Excellent |
| 89 - 80 | B | Above Average |
| 79 - 70 | C | Average* |
| 69 - 60 | D | Below Average |
| 59 and Below | F | Failure |

**Artistic Probation*